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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/800,062

03/12/2004

Takahiro Inoue

36548

8439

116 7590 11/19/2008
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EXAMINER

VAN, QUANG T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3742

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/19/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/800,062	INOUE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Quang T. Van	3742	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 September 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10 and 11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/6/08</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

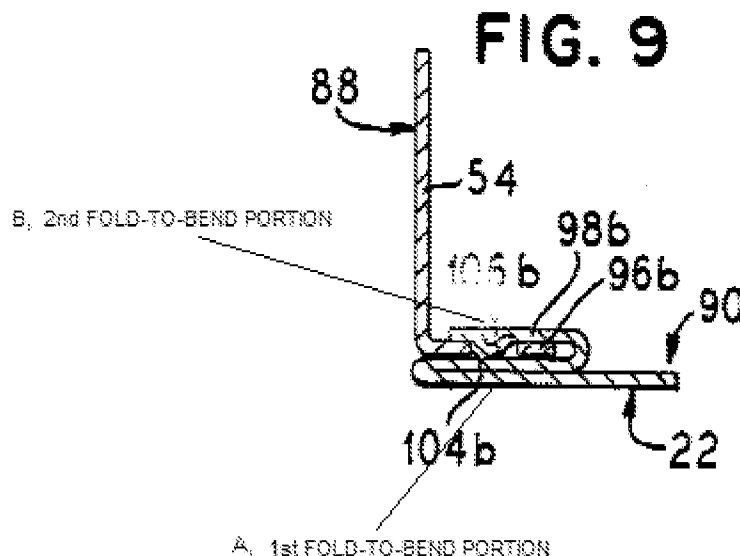
(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spencer et al (US 4,609,801). Spencer discloses a cavity construction for microwave oven comprising a front plate (22) having an opening portion (figure 4); and an inner main body (30, col. 4, lines 43-47) bonded to a peripheral edge (90) of the opening portion for cooking at inside of the inner main body (30); wherein at least either one of the bonding portions of the front plate (30) and the inner main body includes a first fold-to-bend portion (A, Figure below) constituted by folding to bend an end portion thereof to invert to be brought into close contact therewith, and a second fold-to-bend portion (B, Figure below) constituted by inverting a portion on a side of an end portion of the first fold-to-bend portion (A) with a predetermined clearance therebetween, and wherein other of the bonding portions of the front plate (22) and the inner main body (30) includes a flange portion (96b) inserted into the clearance between the first fold-to-bend portion (A) and the second fold-to-bend portion (B), and calked to bond (col. 5, line 58), wherein an inner peripheral portion of the locking hole (104) constitute a conducted face, and a surface of the locking projection (106b) is a metal face having conductivity, and therefore a front plate (22) and a face plate (54) of the

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inner box main body are electrically connected (col. 6, lines 21-40). Spencer also discloses the flange portion has a locking hole and the second fold-to-bend portion has a locking projection that penetrates through the locking hole, and insulating films are formed on a surface of the front plate on a side opposed to a side of being connected with the inner main body and an outer side surface of the inner main body. Spencer does not disclose the second fold-to-bend portion has a locking hole and the flange portion has a locking projection that penetrates through the Locking hole and insulating films are formed on a surface of the front plate on a side opposed to a side of being connected with the inner main body and an outer side . It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make a second fold-to-bend portion has a Locking hole and a flange portion has a Locking projection that penetrates through the Locking hole, since it has been held that a mere reversal of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *In re*

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Einstein, 8 USPQ 167.

3. With regard to “insulating films are formed on a surface of the front plate on a side opposed to a side of being connected with the inner main body and an outer side surface of the inner main body”, Enami discloses an inner box (4) for a cooking appliance having insulating films are formed on a surface of the front plate (5) on a side opposed to a side of being connected with the inner main body and an outer side surface of the inner main body (col. 1, lines 40-68). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize in Spencer insulating films are formed on a surface of the front plate on a side opposed to a side of being connected with the inner main body and an outer side surface of the inner main body as taught by Enami in order to improve visible appearance.

NOTE: With regard to claim 10, the patentability of a product does not depend on its method of production. If the product in the product-by-process claim is the

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same as or obvious from a product of the prior art, the claim is unpatentable even though the prior product was made by a different process.” In re Thorpe, 777 F.2d 695, 698, 227 USPQ 964, 966 (Fed. Cir. 1985). In this case, the term “calked to bond”, recited in claim 10, line 14, is considered a product-by-process; therefore, no patentable weight is given to the term.

Response to Amendment

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 10-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang T. Van whose telephone number is 571-272-4789. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00Am 5:00Pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tu Hoang can be reached on 571-272-4780. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Quang T Van/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3742
November 14, 2008

Quang T Van
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3742